

What is claimed is:

1. An abrasive material for abrading human or animal tissue comprising bioactive material selected from the group consisting of bioactive glass and bioactive ceramics.
2. The abrasive material of claim 1, wherein the bioactive material comprises bioactive glass.
3. The abrasive material of claim 1, wherein the bioactive material comprises bioactive ceramic.
4. The abrasive material of claim 3, wherein the bioactive material comprises sodium, calcium, and silicon.
5. The abrasive material of claim 1, wherein the bioactive material comprises between about 30% and about 96% by weight of silicon dioxide (SiO_2), between about 0% and about 35% by weight of sodium oxide (Na_2O), between about 4% and about 46% by weight calcium oxide (CaO), and between about 1% and about 15% by weight phosphorus oxide (P_2O_5).
6. The abrasive material of claim 1, wherein the bioactive material comprises between about 1% and about 15% by weight phosphorus oxide (P_2O_5), between about 0% and about 25% zinc oxide (ZnO), between about 0% and about 35% by weight of sodium oxide (Na_2O), and between about 0% and about 10% Al_2O_3 .
7. The abrasive material of claim 1, wherein the bioactive material comprises between about 0% and about 30 % by weight sodium oxide (Na_2O), between about 0% and 30 % by weight potassium oxide (K_2O), between about 4% and about 46% by weight calcium oxide (CaO), and between about 10% and about 70% by weight phosphorus oxide (P_2O_5) and between about 0% and about 10% by weight aluminum oxide (Al_2O_3).

8. The abrasive material of claim 1, wherein the bioactive material comprises a zinc releasing compound.
9. The abrasive material of claim 1, wherein the bioactive material comprises a silver releasing compound.
10. The abrasive material of claim 1, wherein the bioactive material comprises a copper releasing compound.
11. The abrasive material of claim 1, wherein the bioactive material comprises a magnesium releasing compound.
12. The abrasive material of claim 1, wherein the bioactive material comprises mineral salts or oxides selected from the group consisting of copper, zinc, silver and magnesium.
13. The abrasive material of claim 1, wherein the bioactive material provides an anti-inflammatory effect.
14. The abrasive material of claim 1, wherein the bioactive material provides an anti-microbial effect.
15. The abrasive material of claim 1, wherein the bioactive material provides an anti-oxidant effect.
16. The abrasive material of claim 1, wherein the bioactive material accelerates or improves wound healing.
17. The abrasive material of claim 1, wherein the bioactive material provides an anti-inflammatory effect.
18. The abrasive material of claim 1, wherein the animal tissue is human skin.
19. The abrasive material of claim 1, wherein the bioactive material comprises powder mixtures which comprise inorganic bioactive material.

20. The abrasive material of claim 1, wherein the bioactive material comprises small particles bonded to larger particles.
21. A composition for use in a medical irrigation procedure comprising bioactive material.
22. The composition of claim 21, wherein the bioactive material provides abrasive and biological effects.
23. The composition of claim 22, wherein said procedure includes wound care.
24. A method for abrading human or animal tissue comprising contacting the tissue with a bioactive material.
25. A method for operating dermabrasion equipment comprising using the equipment to apply an abrasive material comprising a bioactive material to a human or animal tissue, whereby the dermabrasion equipment clogs substantially less than with abrasive materials not containing a bioactive material.
26. A method for preparing an abrasive material for abrading human or animal tissue comprising admixing a bioactive material with at least one other physiologically acceptable substance to make an abrasive material.